# Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine

# **Site Screen Report**

This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits, pits and waste piles. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands that may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.

The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, and record all immediate site information associated with the mine site. Decisions and recommendations on what additional steps are needed will be provided on a separate document.

## **Section 1 Lease AUM Site**

Navajo AUM Western Region

Prepared by:

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

12767.063.599.1111

January 2011

Part I	Site Identification, Location and Status					
Site Names a	nd ID number	s as applicable	•			
Mine ID:	454; 527					
Map ID:	454: W85; 522	<b>7</b> : W86				
CERCLIS:	NNN0009091	08				
Navajo Aban	doned Mine L	and Reclamat	ion Program: No	one		
Local name /	Aliases: Section	on #1				
Chapter and	local area: Sta	te of Arizona				
County: Coc	conino	State: Arizon	a			
Lat/Long:	<b>454</b> : 35.7479190449 N / -111.386011071 W <b>527</b> : 35.7551103116 N / -111.388096354 W					
Nearby road	and highway:	Highway 89	<b>Local Post Office</b>	e: Cameron	, AZ	
Surface Land below	l Status: check	one or more a	and provide owne	rship and co	ontact information	
Tribal Trust Private Bureau of La State			Public lands Tribal Fee Land Allotment Fee land			
Subsurface N	Aineral Rights:	:				
No information	on on subsurface	e mineral rights	s ownership was fo	ound in the E	PA/AUM Database.	
Claim and op	perator inform	ation:				
surface land s operator of the	tatus is classifie e mine as A. C.	ed as State of A Nordell in 195	2 separate mine sit rizona land. Histo 4, and C.L. Rankir lin the EPA/AUM	orical docum n in 1958. N		
Number of re	esidential struc	ctures within 2	00 feet of mine:	None		
Estimated vo	lume of mine v	waste onsite:	<b>454</b> : 463 yd <sup>3</sup> <b>527</b> : 4 yd <sup>3</sup>			

## Part II Summary of radiological readings

**Mine ID: 454** 

## **Highest gamma radiation measurement:**

332,288 counts per minute (cpm)

## Describe any other radiological measurements:

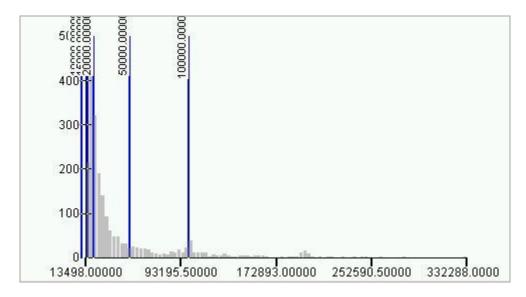
A total of 2,108 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 13,498 cpm to 332,288 cpm. The measurements collected at the waste pile were found at a maximum level of approximately 40,000 cpm, and at the exposed ore at a maximum level of approximately 330,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4.

**Background Readings:** 20,121 cpm

**Background Average:** 20,121 cpm (mine claim background average was 16,548 cpm)

#### **Distribution Chart and Statistics:**

The following chart and statistics were generated by ESRI ArcGIS 9.3.1, and show the general distribution of the site gamma radiation measurements. The horizontal X axis represents the gamma radiation reading levels in cpm (lowest levels to the left). The vertical Y axis represents the frequency of each gamma radiation level.



 Count:
 2108

 Minimum:
 13498.00000

 Maximum:
 332288.00000

 Sum:
 93556896.00000

 Mean:
 44381.82922

 Median:
 24052.50000

 Standard Deviation:
 47791.96355

January 2011

#### **Mine ID: 527**

#### **Highest gamma radiation measurement:**

604,524 counts per minute (cpm)

### Describe any other radiological measurements:

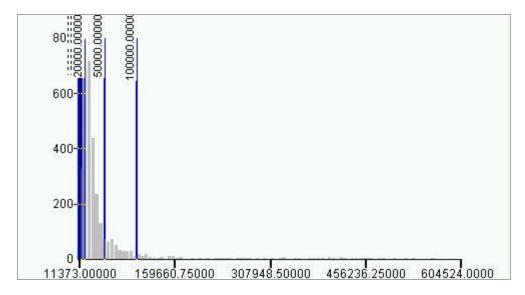
A total of 3,152 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 11,373 cpm to 604,524 cpm. The measurements collected at the waste piles were found at a maximum level ranging from approximately 150,000 cpm to 600,000 cpm, and at the trench areas at a maximum level ranging from approximately 30,000 cpm to 80,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1, 2, 5, and 6.

**Background Readings:** 13,701 cpm

**Background Average:** 13,701 cpm (mine claim background average was 16,548 cpm)

#### **Distribution Chart and Statistics:**

The following chart and statistics were generated by ESRI ArcGIS 9.3.1, and show the general distribution of the site gamma radiation measurements. The horizontal X axis represents the gamma radiation reading levels in cpm (lowest levels to the left). The vertical Y axis represents the frequency of each gamma radiation level.



 Count:
 3152

 Minimum:
 11373.00000

 Maximum:
 604524.00000

 Sum:
 155735714.00000

 Mean:
 49408.53871

 Median:
 27819.00000

 Standard Deviation:
 75287.90036

#### Part III Status of Reclamation and Mine Waste

**Mine ID: 454** 

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Unknown Waste Pile onsite: No

**NAMLRP Project Number:** None

**NAMLRP Mine features:** None

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2010 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

Observed	recl	amation	work	and	ctatuc.

#### Adits

None

#### **Waste Piles**

Many small waste piles throughout site, estimated total 50' x 50' x 5'

#### **Pits**

None

#### Shafts

None

## **Other Debris and Mine Features**

Exposed ore

**Mine ID: 527** 

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Unknown Waste Pile onsite: No

**NAMLRP Project Number:** None

NAMLRP Mine features: None

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2010 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

Oh	served	reclan	nation	work	and	status

#### **Adits**

None

#### **Waste Piles**

4 waste piles: 1- 4' x 6' x 2' yellow brown; 2- 8' diameter x 1' h, yellow brown with berm surrounding pile; 3- 5' diameter x 2' h yellow brown; 5' diameter x 0.5' h yellow brown with berm surrounding pile

#### **Pits**

None

## **Shafts**

None

## **Other Debris and Mine Features**

Shallow trenches throughout site

#### **Part IV**

#### **Site observations and Environs**

Observed Structures: list number of and describe human habitation status of structures at the following distances from mine:

**0 to 200 feet:** None

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None

Observed Public or commercial structure: list and describe all schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structure used by members of the community at the following distances:

0 to 200 feet: None

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None

Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):

None

Observed water sources: list the number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine:

0 to 0.25 miles: None

**0.25 miles to 4 miles:** Windmill Well approximately 1.25 mi NW of the site 527, 1.75 mi NW of site 454; Little Colorado River Basin approximately 3.5 mi E of the sites

Sensitive environments: note and describe all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species, habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation.

None

Known Site History: include information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents. Note information on mine ownership, type of mining operation, period of operation, known amount of production, and any other information as provided.

Section 1 Lease mine claim consists of 2 separate mine sites (#'s 454, 527) with a total combined area of 31,900.37 m<sup>2</sup>. The mine claim was identified as being operational from 1954 to 1958. Historical documents showed the operator of the mine as A. C. Nordell in 1954, and C.L. Rankin in 1958. While operational, the mine had a total production volume of 44 tons. No other historical information or any additional ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA/AUM database.

## Part V Response Action Summary

## **Summary of Evaluation Factors:**

## Accessibility:

Was the mine easily accessible to potential human activity? Yes

## Radiological Measurements:

Were any gamma radiation measurements collected at the mine greater than two times the site-specific background levels?

Yes

#### Waste Piles:

Were any unreclaimed waste piles observed at the mine with gamma radiation measurements greater than two times the site-specific background levels? Yes

#### Structures:

Were any structures observed within 200 feet of the mine?

No

## Potential Drinking Water Sources:

Were any potential drinking water sources observed within 4 miles of the mine? Yes

#### Reclamation:

Was the mine reported to be previously reclaimed, or did the mine appear to be reclaimed?

Unknown

## Part VI Photos



Photo 1. Section 1 Lease, Site #454



Photo 2. Section 1 Lease, Site #454, area of elevated gamma readings



Photo 3. Section 1 Lease, Site #527



Photo 4. Section 1 Lease, Site #527, shallow trench



Photo 5. Section 1 Lease, Site #527, small waste piles



Photo 6. Section 1 Lease, Site #527, small waste piles

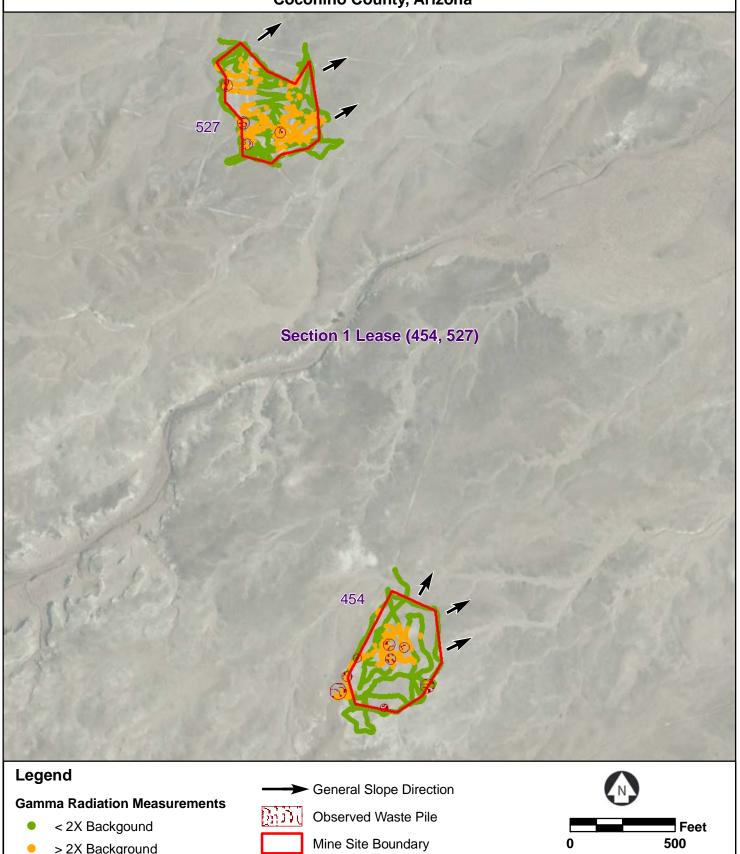
Name:

# Part VII Contacts Reports and Information

Stanley Edison (928) 871-6861

Eugene Esplain (928) 871-7331	
Title or official role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund Program	
AddressPO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515	
Information provided <u>Lead Regulatory Agency</u>	
Name_	
Title or official role (if any)	
Address	
Telephone number	
Information provided	
Name	
Title or official role (if any)	_
Telephone number	
Information provided	
Name_	
Title or official role (if any)	_
Telephone number	
Information provided	

Figure 1 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background Section 1 Lease (454, 527) Coconino County, Arizona

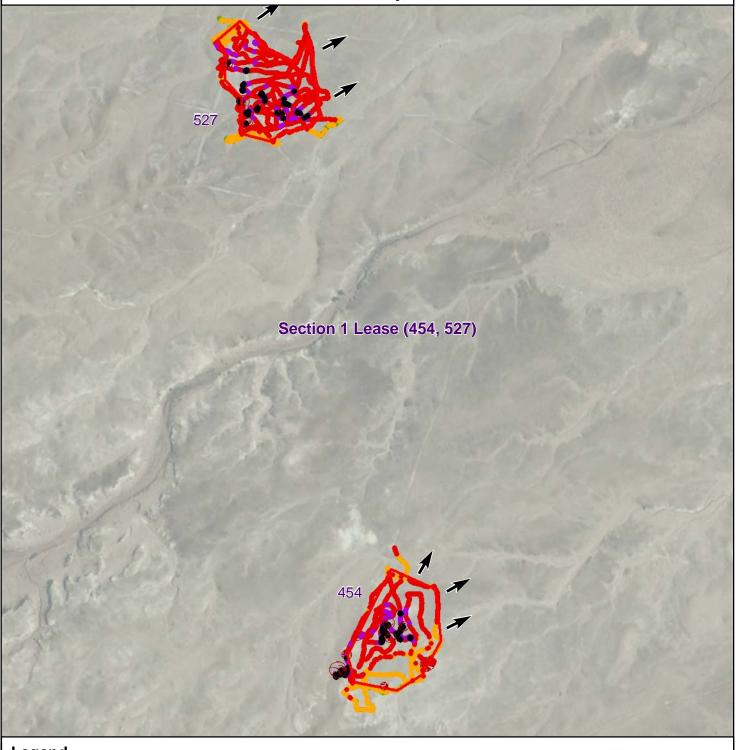


> 2X Background

Gamma survey conducted 11/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Average background 16,548 cpm

Figure 2 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Section 1 Lease (454, 527) Coconino County, Arizona



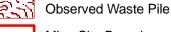
## Legend

### **Gamma Radiation Measurements**

- 0 10,000
- 10,000 15,000
- 15,000 20,000
- 20,000 50,000
- 50,000 100,000
- > 100,000

Average background 16,548 cpm

General Slope Direction

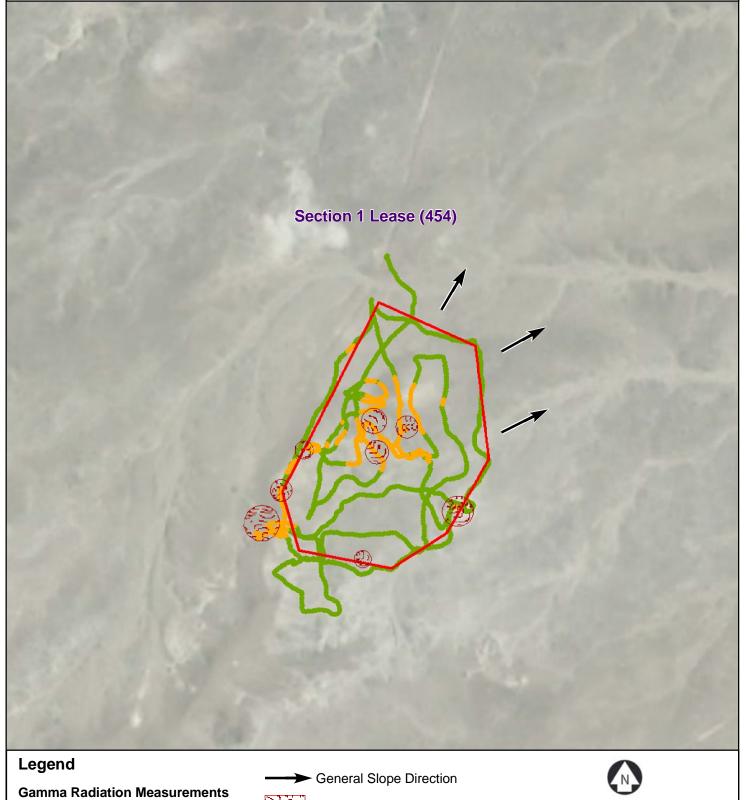


Mine Site Boundary



Gamma survey conducted 11/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Figure 3 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background
Section 1 Lease (454)
Coconino County, Arizona



- < 2X Backgound</p>
- > 2X Background

Gamma survey conducted 11/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Average background 16,548 cpm

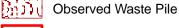
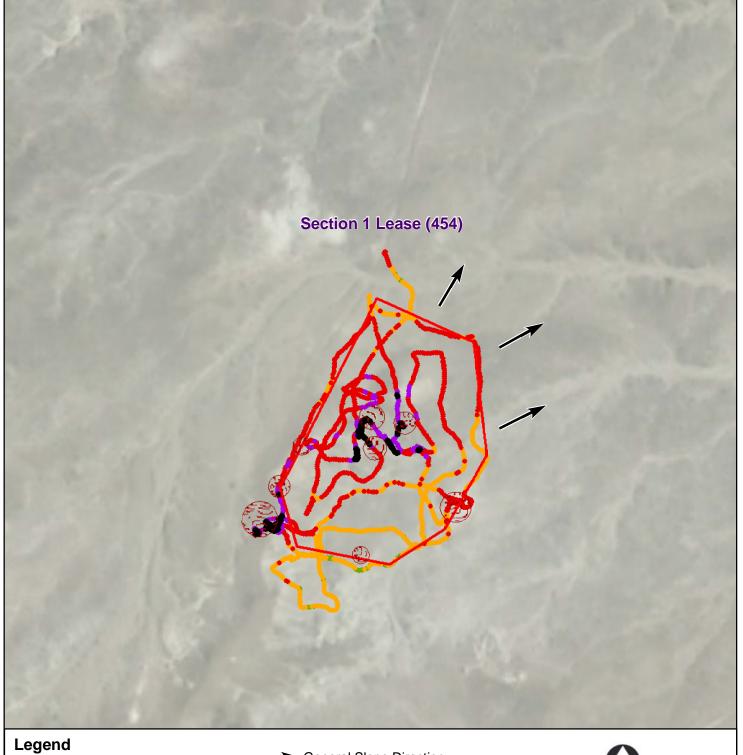






Figure 4 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Section 1 Lease (454) Coconino County, Arizona

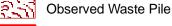


## **Gamma Radiation Measurements**

- 0 10,000
- 10,000 15,000
- 15,000 20,000
- 20,000 50,000
- -----
- 50,000 100,000
- > 100,000

Average background 16,548 cpm

General Slope Direction

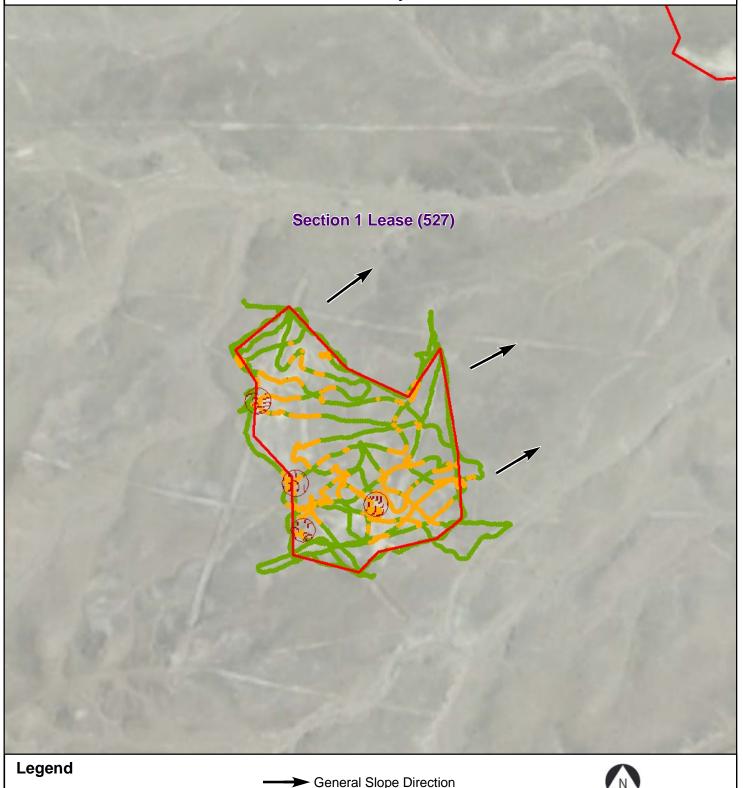


Mine Site Boundary



Gamma survey conducted 11/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Figure 5 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background
Section 1 Lease (527)
Coconino County, Arizona

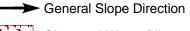


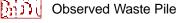
## **Gamma Radiation Measurements**

- < 2X Backgound</p>
- > 2X Background

Gamma survey conducted 11/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Average background 16,548 cpm

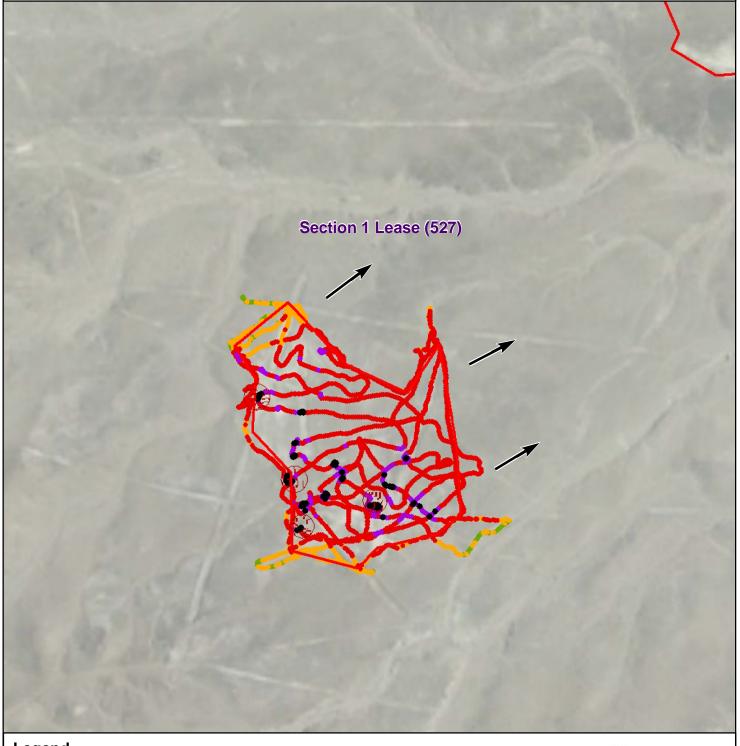








## Figure 6 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Section 1 Lease (527) Coconino County, Arizona



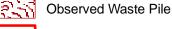
## Legend

## **Gamma Radiation Measurements**

- 0 10,000
- 10,000 15,000
- 15,000 20,000
- 20,000 50,000
- 50,000 100,000
- > 100,000

Average background 16,548 cpm





Mine Site Boundary



Gamma survey conducted 11/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)